



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/625,745	07/26/2000	Albert Henricus Francicus de Heer	GDT1P004	8534

22204 7590 04/29/2005

NIXON PEABODY, LLP  
401 9TH STREET, NW  
SUITE 900  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2128

EXAMINER
----------

AL HASHEMI, SANA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2161

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

47

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/625,745

6

Applicant(s)

DE HEER ET AL.

Examiner

Sana Al-Hashemi

Art Unit

2161

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/5/04, 5/3/04</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in response to applicant's amendment filed 7/6/04.
2. Claims 1-24 were amended. No claims were added. None were deleted.
3. Claims 1-24 as amended are pending.
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell et al. (US Patent No. 5,675,784) in view of Imamura et al. (US Patent No. 6,128,600) and further in view of Povilus (US Patent No. 5,740,425).

Art Unit: 2161

Regarding Claim 1, 22, 23, and 24, Maxwell discloses a method of capturing data for use in a catalog, comprising:

capturing product data for a product according to data model, the data model having one or more classes(see Fig. 2, step 50, Maxwell), each one of the one or more classes being defined by one or more categories (see Fig. 2, step 51, Maxwell), each of the one or more categories being defined by an attribute group having one or more attributes (see Fig. 2, step 53, column 8, lines 42-67, Maxwell);

Maxwell does not explicitly disclose the step of storing the product data including both a manufacturer SKU that identifies the product and a customer SKU that identifies the product, and at least one customer SKU that identifies the product, each customer SKU being associated with a customer for which the product data is being stored for subsequence distribution to the customer, wherein the sorted product data is suitable for use in an electronic catalog, the customer being a manufacturer, retailer, or distributor of the product. On the other hand, Imamura discloses the storing the product data including both a manufacturer SKU that identifies the product and a customer SKU that identifies the product, and at least one customer SKU that identifies the product, each customer SKU being associated with a customer for which the product data is being stored for subsequence distribution to the customer, wherein the sorted product data is suitable for use in an electronic catalog, the customer being a manufacturer, retailer, or distributor of the product (see Fig. 7, column 9, lines 24-53, Imamura). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add/modify Maxwell with Imamura by including the step storing the product data including both a manufacturer SKU that identifies the product and a customer SKU that identifies the product,

Art Unit: 2161

wherein the stored product data is suitable for use in an electronic catalog, and the motivation would have been improving the use of the electronic catalogs for a wide market segment which will increase the number of users shopping online. The combination of Maxwell in view of Imamura is silent with respect to the step of the customer has requested distribution or transmission of product data for a plurality of products to the customer for use in a catalog the product data for each of the plurality of products including a customer SKU associated with the customer for that products. On the other hand, Povilus on column 12, lines 35-52, discloses the step of the customer has requested distribution or transmission of product data for a plurality of products to the customer for use in a catalog the product data for each of the plurality of products including a customer SKU associated with the customer for that products. It would have been obvious tone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination of Maxwell/ Imamura to add the distribution of product data for a plurality of products to the customer for use in a catalog the product data for each of the plurality of products including a customer SKU associated with the customer for that products with the motivation of keep tracks of the product for maintenance or service or even inventory which allow the customer to be ahead incase more product needed or service is due that would results in keeping the product available for end users at all times and avoiding the time when they run out of any specific item.

Regarding Claim 2, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura/ Povilus discloses a method wherein capturing product data includes:

classifying a product to be entered according to the data model (see column 7, lines 10-34, Maxwell);

Art Unit: 2161

rendering a data entry template associated with the category of the classified product, wherein the data entry template includes a listing of potential values associated with each of the attributes in the category of the classified product, wherein the listing of potential values identify values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute (see column 6, lines 45-48, Maxwell).

Regarding Claim 3, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura/ Povilus discloses a method wherein the rendering further includes repeating the listing of potential values for the classified product when the attribute group associated with the classified product is indicated to be a repeating group in the data model (see column 6, lines 15-18, Maxwell).

Regarding Claims 4, and 5, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura/ Povilus discloses a method wherein each attribute is associated with a possible value list including values that are selectable and selected searchable attributes are specified, wherein the step of capturing product data includes reviewing product information for a particular product and selecting specific values from the possible value list for each of the selected searchable attributes (see column 7, lines 60-67, Maxwell).

Regarding Claim 6, and 9, Imamura does not explicitly disclose creating a product header that is associated with the product, wherein creating the product header includes storing a system SKU associated with the product in the product header; storing a manufacturer SKU associated with the product in the product header; associating the product header with product information characterizing the product. However, Imamura discloses a unique value identifier that corresponds to the header in the SKU (see Fig. 10, Imamura) to uniquely identify the quantity and price for each item.

Art Unit: 2161

Regarding Claim 7, Maxwell discloses a method wherein the product information includes one of the one or more categories and a manufacturer product description, the manufacturer product description describing standard features of the product (see column 9, lines 27-31, Imamura).

Regarding Claim 8, and 17, Imamura discloses a method further including:  
linking the product header to one or more images illustrating the product (see Fig. 10, Imamura).

Regarding Claim 10, 11, and 19, Imamura does not explicitly disclose a method further including:

specifying one or more countries for which the product is adapted for sale. However, Imamura discloses the message value is initially set to "USA" which inherent there is a list of countries to select from (see column 3, lines 23-34, Imamura).

Regarding Claim 12, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura discloses a method further including:

linking to one or more related products that are recommended as related to the product (see column 5, lines 53-55, Maxwell).

Regarding Claims 13, and 14, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura discloses a method further including:

linking to platform compatibility information associated with the product (see column 5, lines 38-42, Maxwell).

Art Unit: 2161

Regarding Claim 15 the combination of Maxwell/Imamura discloses a method wherein each attribute has an associated possible value list that identifies values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute and wherein storing the product data further includes:

storing selected attributes in an attribute table, each of the selected attributes being identified by a system SKU and having at least one of the values in the associated possible value list (see Fig. 7, 70, 71, and 72, Imamura).

Regarding Claim 16, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura disclose a method wherein capturing product data for the product includes:

classifying the product according to a data model having one or more classes, wherein each of the classes is arranged to identify one or more associated categories and each of the categories is arranged to identify an associated attribute group having one or more attributes, each attribute having an associated possible value list that identifies values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute (see column 5, lines 43-52, Maxwell);

selecting at least one of the values in the associated possible value list for selected attributes in the associated attribute group(see column 2, lines 39-42, Maxwell);

inputting the selected values for the product to the system product data file (see column 2, lines 28-32, Maxwell).

Regarding Claim 18, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura discloses a method wherein capturing data for the product further includes:

inputting a marketing description associated with the product to the system product data file (see column 2, lines 43-54, Maxwell).



Art Unit: 2161

Regarding Claim 20, the combination of Maxwell/Imamura discloses a method wherein capturing data for the product further includes:

inputting to the system product data file a list identifying one or more related products that are recommended as related to the product (see column 5, lines 53-66, Maxwell).

Regarding Claim 21, Maxwell discloses a method wherein capturing data for the product further includes:

inputting to the system product data file platform compatibility information associated with the product (see column 5, lines 10-12, Maxwell).

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

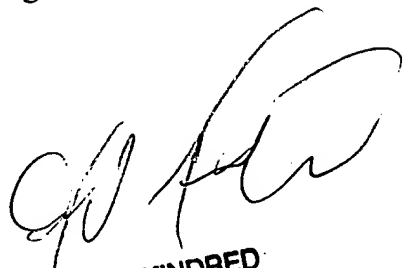
Art Unit: 2161

***Points of Contact***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to: Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (571) 272-4023. Any response to this office action should be mailed to: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. Or telefax at phone number (703) 746-9890. For formal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT". Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Receptionist, Arlington, Virginia. 22202.

---

Sana Al-Hashemi  
Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2100  
April 21, 2005

  
ALFORD KINDRED  
PRIMARY EXAMINER